

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 21, 2007

DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY

DIRECTOR: BRADFORD R. JERBIC

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE: BILL ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION AT THIS MEETING

ABEYANCE ITEM - Bill No. 2007-61 – Increases the salary of, and provides a vehicle allowance for, the Mayor and City Council. Sponsored by: Mayor Oscar B. Goodman

Fiscal Impact

☐

No Impact

☐

Augmentation Required

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Budget Funds Available

Amount: None in current fiscal year

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

This bill will increase the compensation of the Mayor and City Council and provide them a vehicle allowance, to become effective following the next election pertaining to each seat. The increase reflects the recommendations of a Council Review Committee study several years ago. The salary for Council members representing Wards 1 through 6 will be 90% of the salary approved for members of the Clark County Board of Commissioners. The Mayor's salary will be 180% of the salary of the other Council members, and is based upon full-time service of the Mayor. The vehicle allowance will be \$600/mo for the Mayor and \$500/mo for the other members, and is comparable to those for other local officials.

RECOMMENDATION:

FORWARDED to Full Council at 11/7/2007 City Council meeting with no recommendation pursuant to the 10/16/2007 Recommending Committee.

First Reading – 10/3/2007; First Publication – 10/25/2007

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Bill No. 2007-61
2. Business Impact Statement
3. Submitted at meeting – City Manager Information Report by Mayor Goodman

Motion made by LOIS TARKANIAN to Approve as First Amendment

Passed For: 6; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, OSCAR B. GOODMAN, GARY REESE, STEVE WOLFSON, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-LARRY BROWN); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

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Minutes:

Second reading and bill adopted as recommended as Ordinance No. 5947. Clerk to proceed with second publication.

CITY ATTORNEY BRAD JERBIC indicated there would be a proposed amendment but would wait to hear from the City Council first.

MAYOR GOODMAN stated there was a feeling that unless the Council positions were full-time position that a car allowance should not be provided to the Councilmembers. The motion would be to make the Mayor a full-time position with the salary as suggested, to increase the salary of the Councilmembers and to allow a car allowance for the Mayor. CITY ATTORNEY JERBIC advised that that would be made part of the First Amendment.

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED explained that the existing salaries of Mayor and Council have been increased over the years by virtue of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Therefore, he recommended amendments to Section 5 to recite the current Council salary of \$46,681.44 and Section 10 to amend the Mayor salary to \$61,327.50.

MAYOR GOODMAN stated that the increase of salaries will not benefit the current Mayor and Council. There has not been a salary increase for the Mayor and Council since 1986 and the town has changed since 1986. Boundaries and population have expanded. The annual budget has increased and the responsibilities of the City Councilmembers have increased. He is aware that there are those who criticize the salary increase, particularly during this economic challenge, but he is optimistic that in the next 18 months the economy will bounce back. The increase will benefit future elected officials.

COUNCILMAN BROWN verified with CITY ATTORNEY JERBIC that Councilmembers will not receive an additional car allowance but would receive a salary increase and their positions would remain part-time. Additionally, the Mayor's salary will also increase, receive a car allowance and the position will become full-time.

COUNCILMAN BROWN remarked he could support full-time for the Mayor, but did not feel comfortable leaving the Council part-time and still increase the salary.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW was also confused. MAYOR GOODMAN reiterated that the Mayor's position would be full-time with a salary increase and a car allowance. The City Council would remain in their part-time positions, have a salary increase, and no car allowance. All of this will be in effect for those candidates seeking re-election of newly elected.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON stated he will support the ordinance, and asked that the most current City Manager Report be submitted for the record. He referred to the salary surveys reflected in the report, noting that some are higher and some lower. He opined that the City Council positions deserve the salary increase.

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MAYOR GOODMAN remarked he has been blessed in his life with his law practice and was able to become economically comfortable. He believes future Council is entitled to be paid commensurate with their responsibilities. That is the reason why he sponsored the ordinance. He agreed with comments that the City Council is a contentious Council that works hard for its constituents.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated she would prefer everyone working full-time, but the salary increase is not enough for a full-time position.

COUNCILMAN BROWN echoed comments about the Mayor's position, but was concerned with part-time versus full-time. He cannot support the part-time status with the salary increase.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated that if the positions were full-time, the salary would remain the same.

